

8 June 1961

Mr. Lewis C. Coffin
Associate Director, Processing Department
Library of Congress
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Lewis:

At the PROCIB meeting on 6 June 1961, you suggested that the Library of Congress was not receiving from us current Communist Chinese publications in the science and technology field as we are providing such to MIT. I have looked into the matter and find that no current material has gone to MIT for microfilming that has not been made available to you. You can rest assured that any future shipments made to MIT will be offered to the Library of Congress first, for microfilming of such items as you may not have.

With regard to the older material that MIT already has on microfilm, I have checked our records and find that at a meeting in the Library of Congress on 26 April 1960 this material was offered to the Library of Congress for microfilming. The offer was declined by you. The National Science Foundation then went ahead and provided fiscal support, in part with assistance from another Office in this Agency, for microfilming everything available in the scientific and technical field from Communist China. We have a copy of the microfilm, which you can borrow to make copies of items you need to complete your collection.

I understand that a preliminary discussion was held recently at the Library of Congress regarding the possibility of it becoming a center for making available Communist Chinese publications in the social sciences field. If this proposal becomes firm, I assure you that any publications that can be made available to you, will be, in an orderly fashion so as not to interfere with service to our own customers. It is my understanding that your Mr. Peal is scheduled to come over to our Acquisitions Branch and make selections for this microfilming program.

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I want to reiterate to you our consistent policy of providing to the Library of Congress any publication which we have that you do not, when there are no security restrictions for us to observe. There has been no change in this policy.

Sincerely,

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Deputy Assistant Director

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